

NEWSIEST SHEET 114 YEARS OLD

"Raleigh," a Paper That Carried Sensations

Was Edited By Joseph Gales—
Postmasters Were Agents—
Fifty-eight Counties in General Assembly.

"Raleigh," a newspaper issued November 19, 1799, was sent here by express a few days ago from Seattle, Washington, and in its four small pages of the type peculiar to that day, it was one of the breeziest publications in the country.

The issue substantiates the date line. The paper has been worn almost to a frazzle and the events unquestionably are ancient. The paper came out the day on which the General Assembly convened and it tells of a complication that developed that day.

Governor Smith had been elected to the legislature and as the General Assembly met some days before the inauguration, Mr. Blount, whose initials are not given, expressed doubt as to General Smith's right to act as governor. It says: "General Smith thought his duties as governor expired when he qualified and he thought it his duty to his constituents to qualify. He saw no difficulty in the business, as the moment the speaker was appointed he would become governor. The paper then records the contest for the speakership in which B. Smith received 27 votes and S. Johnson 21.

The "Raleigh" then chronicles the news of the day. It appears to have been a daily issue, but there is nothing to indicate it in the columns or at the masthead. It may have been daily during the sessions of the General Assembly and no other time. It gives the names of the 58 counties that made up the State then, 42 counties having been made from the territory known as North Carolina since that time.

Wake's representatives in that Assembly were: Thomas Hines, senator, and William Hinton and Henry Seawell, members of the House of Commons. Mussendine Matthews must have been reading clerk, Pleasant Henderson affiant clerk, and John Hunt clerk.

Growth of Country.

The population of the State of North Carolina then was 398,751. Virginia had nearly twice as many, 747,610, but New York's count was 440,120, and Pennsylvania's was 434,373. There were 126 representatives in the lower house of Congress and the southern states had most of them.

Virginia had been most in the eyes of the world and the center of population was Virginia. North Carolina has grown much more rapidly than Virginia since the earlier days, despite Virginia's constant replenishing from North Carolina because of better business conditions.

"Raleigh" was a \$3 paper "in advance." Every postmaster in North Carolina was an agent and subscriptions were received by the printer and the proprietor. Advertisements of twenty lines or less were 50 cents, and for each additional insertion 25 cents. And the advertisement column was the richest of them all.

How Money Was Lost.

Wilson and Swann, a firm evidently doing a big business, had put two notes in the postoffice in the presence of Postmaster Myatt. These were delivered to the office October 27, 1799. The notes were addressed to John Mills, of the Alexandria Bank, Baltimore, and were in favor of William Taylor. The notes appeared to have been delayed in transit.

Messrs. Wilson and Swann advertised in "Raleigh." They did not hesitate to accuse the postmaster of the theft of the notes and did so in the most amusing logic at all.

"These notes were dated April 30, 1798, and December 10, 1798," the advertisement explained, and it emphasized that they were for \$1,000 and \$500 respectively. It continues: "The letter was suppressed by the postoffice and the bank notes taken out, as the public mail was not stopped, molested or robbed. Bankers and merchants are asked to stop them. Any person who will give information leading us to our money, will get \$500."

The postmaster could write. He told how the men came to the office and deposited the letter. "They gave me a letter and said it was double," the official explained, doubtless meaning a duplicate. He said he put it in the mail in their presence. "They have tried to throw obloquy upon my character," he said, "and I wish to remove the impression made by this villainous attempt at calumniating my good name by unjust publication of that advertisement." Subsequent issues having been lost, it is not

known whether there was a duel or not.

The paper has all sorts of anecdotes, one that covers a column or more, on Governor Huntington, of Connecticut, who appears to have gone from North Carolina, was being elected every year and the paper thought Connecticut ought to change. It liked the chief executive, but recommended that Connecticut put such a proviso in the constitution as would relieve death of the embarrassment of removing officers and especially governors. The story of the governor's going to see an old friend, once rich, but later very poor, and how the old friend came from the field and entertained his distinguished visitor, was stretched over the column. The paper described the governor's friend as a man "of native wit, decently improved by education."

The sentence is noteworthy. "Decently improved!" It is not always the experience of "native wit" that it is decently improved by education. Real wit so improved was the kind that J. Gales liked and his pointless joke of a whole column can be relished in the light of the fact that the joke was entirely decent and that it had been improved by education.

SHALL THE BIBLE BE READ IN OUR SCHOOLS

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE.)

feelings and the principle of political freedom? Not a bit of it. The fact is, that, while a man may think what he pleases, yet the state must have a definite line of thought of its own; and, furthermore, must impress that thought upon its citizens; and whether those citizens agree with them or not, they must acknowledge them as the fundamental constitution of the land and abide by them.

If, then, the constitution must be treated with such respect, ought not the Word of God to be held by the State in supreme reverence?

Lesse Majeste.

Once upon a time, there was a great king who ruled over a vast country. He was both very good and very wise—wiser by far than any of his subjects. He wrote a book of laws for their help and guidance, the best and wisest book, the most wonderful system of laws, the kingdom had ever seen. Now this kingdom was divided into several smaller kingdoms and one day a copy of the books reached one of them with the request that all the the Bible, let's revise our definition of that term. There is, however, not the slightest incompatibility between true religious liberty and the recognition by the State of God as its Chief Magistrate and of His Word as its fundamental constitution. The idea that a State can get along without God is a most serious mistake. If He is the arbiter of our destinies, if He it is who can make and unmake nations, then it is supreme folly to ignore Him in government and refuse to recognize His Word in the regulation of the lives of our citizens.

Religious liberty means that every man may worship according to the dictates of his conscience and in the exercise of that worship may not be persecuted; that as long as its observance does not conflict with the highest law, he may not be interfered with. The adoption of the amendment in no wise interferes with this liberty. He can worship as he will; but it does not displace God, if he should happen to prefer an idol; nor does it reject His Word, if he prefers some other book.

This generation of young folks needs it bad enough, and if the State is to sanction any further suppression of that Word which alone can guide to eternal life, then she calls upon her head the just wrath of an insulted God; if she prizes the opinions of men more than she values the honor of God, she is taking a step toward that decline which, sooner or later, meets every nation that dishonors Him. If for the idolatry of a misinterpreted shibboleth she neglects her true mission in the education of her young, she is writing upon their innocent brows the characters that will one day spell with lurid flames, "Ichabod."

Skepticism Enough.

A refusal to adopt the amendment is nothing more nor less than directly ignoring the Bible. This gives to the school system that spirit of irreligion that will bear its legitimate fruit—skepticism—and surely skepticism is plentiful enough without legislative assistance. A few weeks ago, I heard John Sharpe Williams make an address before the Southern Society of Washington City, in which he added in substance: "Among the distinctive things the South stands for its belief in the Bible. You know its fashionable now-a-days not to believe in the Old Book, but in the South we believe it to be the Word of God and the expression of His will to man."

Already there has been too much of this business, and the divorce of the simple, old-fashioned truths of the Bible from the school system, even though partially accomplished, has coined skeptics by the thousands. The school, for a large part of five days in the week and several months in the year, stands in the place of the parent toward the child. If the interests of that child are to be ignored because of the opposition of some who do not believe in the Bible; if its wise precept are to be denied him—because of fearing to wound the sensibilities of those who do not accept them; what kind

of citizenship may we expect of the coming generation?

The question resolves itself into this, after all. Are we to honor or dishonor God? If we honor Him, we must honor His Word; if we dishonor His Word, we insult His majesty.

In this critical hour, I trust that the good sense and piety of the citizenship of the State will prevail, and that they will write into our fundamental constitution the fact, that North Carolina honors God and that her children shall not be denied the privilege of hearing His Word read in their schools.

Clinton, N. C.

COMMISSIONERS IN PRAISE OF STATESVILLE

State Association Adjourns Two-Day Annual Session—Closing Feature a Luncheon.

Statesville, Aug. 16.—Practically all of the delegates to the State Association of County Commissioners left Statesville on this morning's train. The commissioners are either "fibbers" or else they have had a very much of a good time during their stay here. All were frank to say that they have never been accorded as fine entertainment as Statesville has given them and in their resolutions of thanks they unanimously voted "Statesville, the best town in North Carolina." That they were pleased with Iredell's good roads as a result of the \$400,000 bond issue, goes without saying. Many of them declared they had never seen a better system of roads and it is believed that after seeing what Iredell has done, many of the commissioners will advocate large bond issues for public improvements in their counties. They found Iredell with a modern courthouse and jail and with a modern county home plant in course of construction.

The closing feature of the association was a luncheon given in their honor last night in the Anderson hall, which had been attractively fitted up for the occasion. Seats were provided for nearly 200 and practically all were taken. Several ladies and a bevy of pretty girls did the serving. R. H. Rickett was toastmaster and there were fitting responses by Mr. McEachern, of Wilmington; Dr. W. C. Bradshaw, of High Point; Mr. Beckwith, of Raleigh; Mr. Armstrong, of Pender county; Hon. W. D. Turner, M. A. Feimster, Gorman Thompson, N. B. Mills, Dr. Thomas E. Anderson, of Statesville, and others.

CAROLINA TO BE HONORED AT G. A. R. ENCAMPMENT

Mrs. Mary Speed Mercer's Famous Composition Praised by Sousa and Heard by Thousands, to Be Featured.

(By W. H. RICHARDSON.)

Chattanooga, Tenn., Aug. 16.—North Carolina is to be signally honored during the annual encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, September 15-20, in that Mrs. Mary Speed Mercer's famous composition, praised of John Philip Sousa and heard with keen interest by thousands throughout the Southland, will be featured. Copies will probably be distributed during the encampment and the song will be given a prominent place on all musical programs.

The Chattanooga music-lovers who have seen the copies that have reached this city are loud in their praise of this martial-like air, which created such a pleasing sensation in North Carolina and in other States where it has been rendered. At Raleigh, the North Carolina capital, on one occasion hundreds heard the masterpiece for the first time, when it was sung by Miss Wilson, daughter of the recent Secretary of Agriculture. For a time the streets of Raleigh were resounding with strains from it, on account of the hit that it made.

The theme of the song—union—makes it especially adaptable to the occasion on which it is to be extensively used in Chattanooga, when thousands will throng from all parts of the country, to join in the festivities of the week. The G. A. R. reunion here is going to be the biggest gathering of its kind ever held in the South and between 200,000 and 300,000 visitors are expected from all over the country, North and South; from the North, on account of the sentiment of the occasion, and from the South on account of the special rates and the opportunity it will furnish to see the wearers of the blue gathered.

Deaths of Two Infants.

Elizabeth City, Aug. 16.—The remains of the young child of Mr. and Mrs. William Harney were brought here this morning from Norfolk and the interment took place in the Episcopal cemetery. The funeral services were conducted from the Episcopal church by Rev. Mr. Ashby, the rector.

The infant of Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Kirby died last night at the home of its parents in Fleetwood street after an illness of several days.

Traffic Ordinance in Greenville.

Greenville, Aug. 16.—At a meeting of the board of aldermen held Friday night an ordinance was passed making unlawful for any driver of a vehicle to run on but the right side of the street, and no automobile or buggy shall be allowed to stop on the street excepting on the right

AMERICA'S RECORD OF IMPEACHMENTS

Seventeen Important Cases in Nation's History

SEVEN STATE GOVERNORS

Nine Federal Officeholders and One President—One Governor of North Carolina in the List.

(By R. S. CARRAWAY.)

New York, Aug. 16.—The impeachment of Governor William Sulzer, of New York, numbers the seventeenth important impeachment case recorded in the history of the United States, seven of governors of states and nine Federal office-holders, the latter being called to answer before the United States Senate. North Carolina figured prominently in one of these cases, when one of its Governors was impeached.

One President, Andrew Johnson, has been impeached. Congress and he quarrelled over the appointment of a successor to Edwin M. Stanton, whom the President had removed from the office of Secretary of War. The Chief Executive was formally charged with illegally seizing property of the government when he attempted to force his choice in charge of the Department of War. Congress was angered by a series of denunciatory speeches made by the President, much as the New York Legislature was recently incensed at Mr. Sulzer's violent attacks from the platform. The trial lasted three months. On May 26, 1868, a vote was taken. The impeachment charge failed to be upheld by only one vote of the required two-thirds.

The first impeachment case started in 1797, when William Blount, who had been a member of Congress, was charged with inciting the Indians in Louisiana against the Spaniards. He refused to appear, asserting the court had no jurisdiction, and was finally found not guilty.

John Pickens was found guilty of abuse of judicial power as District Judge of New Hampshire, and of intemperance and immoral habits, and was expelled. Soon afterward, in 1805, Samuel Chase, Supreme Court Justice, was acquitted of abuse of power and inflaming Maryland against its state constitution. James H. Peck, a District Court Judge of Missouri, was found not guilty of an impeachable offense in 1831, after he had put a lawyer hostile to him in jail for twenty-four hours.

During the civil war West H. Humphreys, a District Judge of Tennessee, became a Judge of the Confederate States and was found guilty of conspiracy. The case of William W. Balknap, Secretary of War, had a dramatic turn when it was found that his wife was the real one to blame in the farming out of a trading post. He then resigned to protect her. District Court Judge Charles Swayne, of Florida, was acquitted in 1904 of falsifying expense accounts, and on January 13, of this year, Judge Robert W. Archbald was dismissed from the United States Commerce Court.

No governor of the State of New York has ever before been impeached. The Governors who have been impeached are: Charles Robinson, of Kansas, in 1862; Harrison Reed, of Florida, in 1868; William W. Holden, of North Carolina, in 1870; Powell Clayton, of Arkansas, in 1871; David Butler, of Nebraska, in 1871; Henry C. Warmoth, of Louisiana, in 1872, and Adelbert Ames, of Mississippi, in 1876. Only two of these—Butler, of Nebraska, and Holden of North Carolina—were found guilty and removed. Several minor officials of New York State, including two Supreme Court justices, have been impeached.

MAY LEAVE WILLIAMSTON.

Rev. George J. Dowell is Called Again By Baptist Church Here.

Williamston, Aug. 16.—At a called meeting of the Baptist church Thursday evening, Rev. George J. Dowell was called to serve the church as pastor for another year. He has been on the field nearly seven years and has the love and esteem of the people among whom he has lived. It is rumored he will not remain on the field but is open for work anywhere, where the opportunity to accomplish good is offered.

DROPS DEAD ON STREET.

Lumberton, Aug. 16.—Wm. Jones, probably sixty-five years, one of the best known and most highly respected colored men of this section, dropped dead on the street at 3 o'clock this